

ESMERALDA

cheeks tingle. That this outrageous, uncouth girl should deliberately cause her such mortification and embarrassment! And that wasn't all!

Esmeralda's mount seemed immediately to impart the strangest notions to the other animals. He had a way of prancing diagonally, of rearing, or backing, of displaying an interest in sidehills and running water, which immediately affected his fellows. Even Daisy, Mrs. DeWynt's good old white pony, appeared to shed her years and frisked in a disconcerting manner. Several times Mrs. DeWynt reproved her niece sharply for the way in which she allowed the Kaiser to act, until she was almost obliged to conclude that the girl was doing it on purpose to show her circus-rider tricks. She rode in the worst possible form—not even posting the trot; but, somehow, nothing the horse did annoyed her.

But the same could not be said of the others. For one thing, the Kaiser being very fresh the other horses would insist